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(e) the cartage that the Forest Department had and have to pay per cubic foot in each of these years for the timber brought to the Saw Mills; and

(f) the rate per cubic foot the rejected logs are sold in public auction?

A.—(a) The information is not available.

(b) There are at present no sale depots except those maintained at Russellkonda and Berhampur in connexion with the Saw Mill.

(c) A statement containing the information is attached.

(d) From 1923 until 30th September 1926, it was 4 annas a cubic foot. Since 30th September 1926 the rates have been—

	RS.	A.	P.	
Logs of under 10' in length ...	0	4	0	per c. ft.
Do. 10' and under 16' in length.	0	5	0	do.
Do. 16' and over 16' in length...	0	8	0	do.
Single sized sleepers yielding 2 c. ft.	0	4	6	do.
Extra for squared timber ...	0	0	6	do.

	RS.	A.	P.	
(e) 1923-1924 ...	0	3	3.75	per c. ft.
1924-1925 ...	0	3	11.9	do.
1925-1926 ...	0	2	11.7	do.
1926-1927 ...	0	3	3	do.

(f) A statement\* is attached.

## Labour

*Recruitment of labour for plantations from the Jeypore Agency.*

\* 1463 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received resolutions from the public of Jeypore, protesting against the recruitment of labour from the Jeypore Agency for plantations to Assam, etc., passed at a public meeting held on 12th December 1927 at Jeypore (Vizagapatam district);

(b) the number of persons recruited from the Agency tracts of Vizagapatam and Ganjam agencies separately for each of the years of 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1927;

(c) the number of persons referred to in (b) that have returned to their original homes since 1923;

(d) the wages these coolies get in the plantations;

(e) the sanitary and medical arrangements made for these coolies in those plantations;

(f) whether representations were also made to His Excellency regarding these grievances in private interviews in his recent tour to Jeypore; and

(g) whether Government propose to take any action to stop recruitment?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b)

			Vizagapatam.	Ganjam.
1923	...	...	1,625	202
1924	...	...	1,888	Figures not available.
1925	...	...	2,029	1,536
1926	...	...	2,232	2,993
1927	...	...	2,760	5,055

(c) Information is not available.

(d) Wages vary—an adult male can earn 8 annas a day of 8 hours on the average; during the plucking season both men and women can earn a rupee a day and more.

(e) Each estate has its own hospital under an Indian doctor—groups of estates are supervised by qualified European Medical officer. As regards sanitation every effort is made to get the coolies to adopt improved methods.

(f) The Government have no information.

(g) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 1278.

### Pensions

#### *Enhancement of pensions to retired public servants.*

\* 1464 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Local Government have received any proposals to enhance the pensions payable to retired public servants; if so, what they are;

(b) if so, to what classes of public servants they are applicable;

(c) from what date they will take effect; and

(d) what will be the extra cost to the Government per annum?

A.—(a) No.

(b), (c) &amp; (d) Questions do not arise.

### Municipal Councils

#### *Suspension of the Municipality of Cochin.*

\* 1465 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to refer to the answer to my question No. 1019 answered on 1st November 1927 and to state—

(a) whether the period of suspension of the Municipality of Cochin has been extended and, if so, for what period and for what reasons;

(b) whether the municipal area has been reconstituted into new wards, and, if so, from how many into what number and for what reasons;

(c) whether this proposed change has been made with a view to give a majority to the partisans of the European merchants at Cochin;

(d) whether the local authority (the Revenue Subdivisional Officer) has submitted a list of citizens of Cochin for being nominated as members of the new Municipal Council, not on the basis of representation of minorities or communities not likely to get into the Council by election, but on the basis of their partisanship with certain class interests; and